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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7374

BILL NUMBER: SB 371

NOTE PREPARED: Mar 23, 2007

BILL AMENDED: Mar 22, 2007

SUBJECT: Mobile Camps for Railroad Employees.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Simpson

FIRST SPONSOR: Rep. Tyler

BILL STATUS: 2nd Reading - 2nd House

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
X DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill requires a railroad company to provide drinking water at assembly points where at least two maintenance-of-way employees meet (current law applies to assembly points where at least six employees meet). The bill requires the Executive Board of the State Department of Health to adopt rules to protect the health, safety, and welfare of persons living in mobile camps. The bill specifies certain provisions that must be included in the rules. It makes conforming amendments.

Effective Date: Upon passage; July 1, 2007.

Explanation of State Expenditures: This bill defines a mobile camp as a temporary location where at least two maintenance-of-way railroad employees are housed.

The bill requires the State Department of Health (ISDH) to adopt rules to regulate the sanitary conditions, operation, and facilities of mobile camps. The Department is also required to develop interim written guidelines to carry out its duties under this bill while rules are being promulgated. The State Department of Health should be able to implement this provision within their existing level of resources.

Appropriation Background: The ISDH administrative appropriations were made from the dedicated Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement Fund for FY 2006 and FY 2007. The funding source of the FY 2008 and FY 2009 ISDH administrative appropriations will be determined by the General Assembly.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: The bill requires a railroad company to notify the appropriate local

health department of the location of a mobile camp and to request an inspection of the mobile camp within specified time periods. The local health department is required to perform an inspection. The fiscal impact of this provision is dependent on the number of inspections performed by a local health department, which would be based on the frequency that mobile camps are set up in a county. Local health departments should be able to implement this provision within their existing level of resources.

Background Information: According to the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, only one railroad company in Indiana utilizes mobile camps to house its maintenance-of-way employees. It is estimated there are at least 20 to 30 locations where mobile camps are set up across the state, and depending on the types of projects undertaken at the camp locations, maintenance-of-way employees may spend between one week to a year at a site. A group of maintenance-of-way employees that remains at a location for an average of one to six weeks will usually consist of 20 to 50 employees.

Explanation of Local Revenues: (Revised) The bill requires the State Department of Health to promulgate rules that provide for a fee to cover the cost of inspections conducted by local health departments. The fee is to be payable to the county general fund, in advance of the inspection. Revenue generated by this provision would be dependent upon the frequency that mobile camps would be established in a county and the number of inspections required to be performed by a local health department.

State Agencies Affected: State Department of Health; Indiana Department of Transportation.

Local Agencies Affected: Counties; Cities; Local health departments; Marion County Health and Hospital Corporation.

Information Sources: Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

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